



Marc Adelman, Director
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Mass Transit
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Steven G Hennessee
Transit Project Manager
Department of Rail and Public Transportation
600 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Steve,

Per our conversation, I would like to recommend that if ridership is a factor that will be used to develop the upcoming performance based methodology to award state aid that the formula rely on data from the National Transit Database (NTD) which does not blend dial a ride and fixed route motorbus data together. While Danville Transit does offer dial a ride service to the public many transit systems do not. Therefore, if ridership data from the state database is used for the formula then many performance indicators such as cost per hour or trips per hour would not generate consistent, equitable comparisons among transit systems.

Likewise, I would hope that the methodology will award funds relative to mode of service versus total performance for the entire system as a whole since varying degrees of demand response service are provided by transit systems to support strategic objectives. For example, Danville currently operates daily 61 hours of fixed route service and 54 hours of daily demand response service which includes dial a ride, paratransit and New Freedom coordinated operations. Due to the operating characteristics of demand response service revenue potential is constrained based on reservations completed which increases the net cost of the service and generates far fewer trips per hour than fixed route service. While the net cost of demand response service is greater than fixed route operations we offer demand response service to support multiple objectives including serving dispersed employment sites located in remote areas of the city that maintain multiple shift times. These conditions make it extremely challenging to offer cost effective fixed route operations.

I hope these issues will be considered by the committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Adelman", is written over a horizontal line.

Marc Adelman, Transportation Services Director